

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BUENOS 02652 171422Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 USSS-00 /026 W

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O 171405Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0800

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 2652

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR

SUBJECT: ALLEGED PLOT TO DISRUPT PROJECTED VISIT OF THE SECRETARY

REF: STATE 081488

1. THE EMBASSY IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN FOR THE SECURITY OF THIS MISSION'S PERSONNEL, ESPECIALLY DURING THE PERIOD LEADING UP TO AND INCLUDING THE SCHEDULED VISIT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER NEXT WEEK.

2. THE SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE, WITH THE AMBASSADOR'S FULL SUPPORT, REVIEWED THE SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL. PON RECEIPT OF CONFIRMATION THAT THE SECRETARY WILL VISIT BUENOS AIRES APRIL 23-25, SEVERAL MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN. THE PROPOSAL THAT NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL BE SENT OUTSIDE OF ARGENTINA ON TDY TRAVEL ORDERS HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED INASMUCH AS IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE SAME PURPOSE MAY BE ACHIEVED BY ORDERING SUCH NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL TO REMAIN AT HOME DURING THE PERIOD PRECEDING AND DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT. CONSEQUENTLY, AT A MEETING OF ALL EMBASSY PERSONNEL HELD BY THE AMBASSADOR ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 14, SECTION CHIEFS AND AGENCY HEADS WERE REQUESTED TO DETERMINE WHO AMONG THEIR STAFF MIGHT BE CONSIDERED NON-ESSENTIAL. PERSONS SO IDENTIFIED ARE BEING ORDERED TO STAY AT THEIR RESIDENCES THROUGH APRIL 27. AT THE SAME TIME, THE AMBASSADOR DIRECTED THAT PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES BY EMBASSY PERSONNEL AT ALL LEVELS BE STRICTLY AVOIDED, BOTH

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BUENOS 02652 171422Z

AS HOSTS OR GUESTS. THIS HAS RESULTED IN THE CANCELLATION

OF MANY EVENTS THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN SCHEDULED.

3. THE STAFF WAS ALSO INFORMED OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL TO MOVE OUT INTO HOTELS NEAR THE EMBASSY THOSE EMPLOYEES WHO ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ESPECIALLY HIGH RISKS AND WHOSE RESIDENCES ARE IN REMOTE AREAS.

4. PERSONNEL WHOSE WORK REQUIRES THEIR PRESENCE AT THE CHANCERY DURING THE NEXT TWO WEEKS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS IN MOVING TO AND FROM WORK, AND TO ALTER TIMES, MODES AND ROUTES OF TRAVEL.

5. SECURITY GUARD ESCORT SERVICE FOR PERSONNEL IS UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW SO AS TO INCREASE ITS EFFECTIVENESS IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION.

6. DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 14, ALL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WERE TOLD OF THE DEPARTMENT'S READINESS TO TRANSFER FROM BUENOS AIRES ANYONE WHO WAS CONCERNED FOR HIS/HER SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF DEPENDENTS.

7. IT WAS OBVIOUS FROM THE PARTICIPATION IN THE APRIL 14 EMBASSY-WIDE MEETING THAT MORALE AT THIS POST REMAINS HIGH IN SPITE OF THE AWARENESS OF THE POSSIBLE THREAT THAT FACES EVERY MEMBER OF THE MISSION. THE DEPARTMENT'S COOPERATION AND SUPPORT UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES GREATLY CONTRIBUTES TO THIS HIGH LEVEL OF MORALE.

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